GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4352
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2016
Coal Reserves
Dwivedi Shri Harish;Kaswan Shri Rahul;Kishore Shri Kaushal;Nimmala Shri Kristappa

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of coal reserves available in the country for the future and the time by which these are likely to last at the present rate of consumption in the country;
(b) whether the Government has taken any steps to find the alternate sources of energy so that consumption of coal is reduced;
(c) if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the Government has taken any decision to increase the production of coal particularly metallurgical coal in the country so as to eventually stop all the imports of coal; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and the efforts being made by the Government to increase the domestic production of coal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) As per Geological Survey of India (GSI), the estimated quantum of coal resources as of 01.04.2015 stand at 306.56 Billion Tonnes. Every year about 3 to 5 Billion Tonnes of coal resources are being added through exploration. At present rate of exploitation, coal reserves will last for decades.

(b)& (c) Government has laid emphasis on development of renewable sources of energy including solar, wind, hydro etc. In this connection it is mentioned that Government has up-scaled the target of renewable energy capacity to 175 GW by the year 2022 which includes 100 GW from solar, 60 GW from wind, 10 GW from bio-power and 5 GW from small hydro-power.

(d)& (e): It is envisaged to enhance the coal production of Coal India Limited from 536 Million Tonnes achieved in 2015-16 to about 1000 Million Tonnes by 2019-20. This includes enhancement of coking coal production from 53.8 Million Tonnes (Metallurgical Coal 7.68 Million Tonnes and Non Metallurgical Coal 46.15 Million Tonnes) achieved in 2015-16 to 71.77 Million Tonnes (Metallurgical Coal 8.77 Million Tonnes and Non Metallurgical Coal 63 Million Tonnes) in 2019-20.
This enhancement in domestic production of coking coal is envisaged to reduce coking coal imports to some extent. However reduction of coking coal imports totally would not be possible due to the constraint of availability of metallurgical grade coal from domestic sources.

*****